

a¹
obtained by hydrogenating a block copolymer consisting essentially of at least one polymer block composed principally of a vinyl aromatic compound and at least one polymer block composed principally of a conjugated diene compound, which has a weight average molecular weight of at least 300,000, in which the at least one polymer block composed principally of a vinyl aromatic compound is polystyrene, and in which the content by weight of the polystyrene moiety that is contained in the hydrogenated block copolymer is in the range of 20 to 40 %; 100 to 200 parts by weight of a (b1) non-aromatic rubber softening agent having a kinematic viscosity at 40°C of at least 300 mm²s⁻¹ and 10 to 50 parts by weight of a (c1) modified polyolefinic resin, said resin composition having a hardness as measured in accordance with JIS K6253 with durometer of type A being at most 50 degrees and a compression set as measured in accordance with JIS K6262 after being allowed to stand at 70 °C under a compression ratio of 25% for 22 hours being at most 50%, wherein the (c1) modified polyolefinic resin is that which has a functional group having an absorption band at a wave number in the range of 1500 to 2000 cm⁻¹ in the infrared absorption spectrum thereof.

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3. (Amended) The resin composition according to Claim 1, wherein the (c1) modified polyolefinic resin is a resin which is produced by modifying a polyolefinic resin composed principally of polypropylene with an unsaturated carboxylic acid or a derivative thereof

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cont
8. (Amended) A thermoplastic elastomer composition comprising 100 parts by weight of a (a2) hydrogenated block copolymer which is obtained by hydrogenating a block copolymer consisting essentially of at least one polymer block composed principally of a vinyl aromatic compound and at least one polymer block composed principally of a conjugated diene compound, which has a weight average molecular weight of at least 300,000, in which the at least one polymer block composed principally of a vinyl aromatic

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compound is polystyrene and in which the content by weight of the polystyrene moiety that is contained in the hydrogenated block copolymer is in the range of 20 to 40 %; 100 to 200 parts by weight of a (b2) non-aromatic rubber softening agent having a kinematic viscosity at 40 °C of at least 300 mm²s⁻¹; and 10 to 50 parts by weight of a (c2) modified hydrogenated block copolymer obtained by hydrogenating a block copolymer in which a functional group is imparted to a block copolymer consisting essentially of at least one polymer block composed principally of a vinyl aromatic compound and at least one polymer block composed principally of a conjugated diene compound; and 0 to 20 parts by weight of a (d2) compound composed principally of a crystalline polyolefin, said thermoplastic elastomer composition having a hardness as measured in accordance with JIS K6253 with durometer of type A being at most 50 degrees and a compression set as measured in accordance with JIS K6262 after being allowed to stand at 70 °C under a compression ratio of 25% for 22 hours being at most 50%,

wherein the (c2) modified hydrogenated block copolymer is that which has a functional group having an absorption band at a wave number in the ranged of 1500 to 2000 cm⁻¹ in the infrared absorption spectrum thereof.

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10. (Amended) The thermoplastic elastomer composition according to Claim 8, wherein the (c2) modified hydrogenated block copolymer is that which is modified with an unsaturated carboxylic acid or a derivative thereof.

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16. (Amended) The composite molded body according to Claim 39, wherein the thermoplastic resin is at least one species selected from the group consisting of polyethylene, polypropylene and polystyrene.

17. (Amended) The composite molded body according to Claim 39, wherein the thermoplastic resin laminate has a thickness of at most 100 μm.

18. (Amended) The composite molded body according to Claim 39, wherein the thermoplastic elastomer composition comprises at least one species selected from the group consisting of styrenic thermoplastic elastomers, olefinic thermoplastic elastomers and urethanic thermoplastic elastomers.

a5
amended

19. (Amended) The composite molded body according to Claim 39, wherein the thermoplastic elastomer composition comprises 100 parts by weight of a (a3) hydrogenated block copolymer which is obtained by hydrogenating a block copolymer consisting essentially of polystyrene block and at least one polymer block composed principally of a conjugated diene compound, in which the content by weight of the polystyrene moiety that is contained in the hydrogenated block copolymer is in the range of 20 to 40%; 100 to 500 parts by weight of a (b3) non-aromatic softening agent having a kinematic viscosity at 40 °C of at least 300 mm²s⁻¹; and 5 to 100 parts by weight of a (c3) polyolefinic hydrocarbon resin.

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22. (Amended) A process for producing the composite molded body as set forth in Claim 39, comprising placing a metallic sheet which has a prescribed shape and which is laminated on at least one side thereof with a thermoplastic resin, and injection molding a thermoplastic elastomer composition onto at least one part of the surface laminated therewith to integrate the metallic sheet and the thermoplastic elastomer composition.

Please add the following new claims:

a7
amended

37. (New) A gasket, comprising the gasket material of Claim 12, wherein said gasket material is integrated with a metallic cover or a metallic frame.

38. (New) A gasket for a hard disc apparatus, comprising the gasket material of Claim 12, wherein said gasket material is integrated with a metallic cover or a metallic frame.

39. (New) A composite molded body, prepared by a process comprising integrating through thermally fusing adhesion, a metallic sheet laminated with a thermoplastic resin having a hardness as measured in accordance with JIS 6253 with a durometer of type A of at least 50 degrees; and a thermoplastic elastomer composition comprising said resin composition according to Claim 8.

40. (New) A gasket fitted to a cover with the use of the composite molded body according to Claim 39.

41. (New) The gasket fitted to a cover according to Claim 40, comprising a metal surface side of said metallic sheet, and wherein said metal surface side of said metallic sheet forms a sealing surface.

42. (New) A gasket, comprising a gasket material integrated with a metal, which is formed by molding said gasket material,

wherein said gasket material comprises a resin composition, and

wherein said resin composition comprises a thermoplastic elastomer composition comprising 100 parts by weight of a (a1) hydrogenated block copolymer which is obtained by hydrogenating a block copolymer consisting essentially of at least one polymer block composed principally of a vinyl aromatic compound and at least one polymer block composed principally of a conjugated diene compound, which has a weight average molecular weight of at least 200,000, in which the at least one polymer block composed principally of a vinyl aromatic compound is polystyrene, and in which the content by weight of the polystyrene moiety that is contained in the hydrogenated block copolymer is in the range of 20 to 40%; 100 to 200 parts by weight of a (b1) non-aromatic rubber-softening agent having a kinematic viscosity at 40°C of at least 300 mm²s⁻¹; and 10 to 50 parts by weight of a (c1) modified polyolefinic resin, said resin composition having a hardness as measured in

accordance with JIS K6253 with a durometer of type A being at most 50 degrees and a compression set as measured in accordance with JIS K6262 after being allowed to stand at 70°C under a compression ratio of 25% for 22 hours being at most 50%.

43. (New) A hard disc gasket, which comprises the gasket integrated with a metal as set forth in Claim 42.

44. (New) A gasket, comprising a gasket material integrated with a metal, which is formed by molding said gasket material into a gasket integrated with a metallic cover or a metallic frame,

wherein said gasket material comprises a thermoplastic elastomer composition, and

wherein said thermoplastic elastomer composition comprises 100 parts by weight of a

at (a2) hydrogenated block copolymer which is obtained by hydrogenating a block copolymer consisting essentially of at least one polymer block composed principally of a vinyl aromatic compound and at least one polymer block composed principally of a conjugated diene compound, which has a weight average molecular weight of at least 200,000, in which the at least one polymer block composed principally of a vinyl aromatic compound is polystyrene and in which the content by weight of the polystyrene moiety that is contained in the hydrogenated block copolymer is in the range of 20 to 40%; 100 to 200 parts by weight of a

(b2) non-aromatic rubber-softening agent having a kinematic viscosity at 40°C of at least 300 mm²s⁻¹; 10 to 50 parts by weight of a (c2) modified hydrogenated block copolymer obtained by hydrogenating a block copolymer in which a functional group is imparted to a block copolymer consisting essentially of at least one polymer block composed principally of a vinyl aromatic compound and at least one polymer block composed principally of a conjugated diene compound; and 0 to 20 parts by weight of a (d2) compound composed principally of a crystalline polyolefin, said thermoplastic elastomer composition having a

hardness as measured in accordance with JIS K6253 with a durometer of type A being at most 50 degrees and a compression set as measured in accordance with JIS K6262 after being allowed to stand at 70°C under a compression ratio of 25% for 22 hours being at most 50%.

45. (New) The gasket according to Claim 44, which is a hard disc apparatus.

46. (New) A composite molded body that is formed by integrating through thermally fusing adhesion, a metallic sheet laminated with a thermoplastic resin having a hardness as measured in accordance with JIS K6253 with a durometer of type A of at least 50 degrees; and a thermoplastic elastomer composition having a hardness as measured in accordance with JIS K6253 with a durometer of type A being at most 60 degrees and a compression set as measured in accordance with JIS K6262 after being allowed to stand at 70°C under a compression ratio of 25% for 22 hours being at most 50%, wherein the thermoplastic resin is at least one species selected from the group consisting polyethylene, polypropylene and polystyrene.

47. (New) The composite molded body according to Claim 46, which is a gasket fitted to a cover.

48. (New) The composite molded body according to Claim 46, wherein said composite molded body is a gasket fitted to a cover, and the metal surface side of the laminated metallic sheet forms a sealing surface.

SUPPORT FOR THE AMENDMENTS

Applicants have amended Claims 1 and 8 to change "200,000" to --300,000-- and to incorporate the limitations of Claims 2 and 8 respectively. Accordingly, support for amended Claims 1 and 8 can be found in Example 8, on page 59, lines 15-17, of the specification and in Claims 1, 2, 8, and 9, as originally filed. Applicants have also rewritten Claims 13-15, 20,